IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

pl No.:

Harris et al.

09/824,395

April 2, 2001

DEGRADABLE HETEROBIFUNCTIONAL

POLY(ETHYLENE GLYCOL) ACRYLATES AND GELS AND CONJUGATES DERIVED THEREFROM

December 21, 2001

Confirmation No: 1903

1711

N. Nutter

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

RECEIVED
JAN - 2 2002
TC 1700

114/02

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement mailed June 22, 2001, Applicants hereby elects the claims of Group II, which are Claims 2 through 7 and 12 through 16. In response to the requirement for election of species, Applicant hereby elects the species of Claim 2 for which Claims 4 through 7 are generic.

Should the Examiner have further questions or comments with respect to examination of this case, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney so that further examination of this application can be expedited.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those, which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required In re:

Harris et a

Appl No.:

09/824,395

Filed:

April 2, 2001

Page 2

therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit

Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul F. Pedigo

Registration No. 31,650

Customer No. 000826 ALSTON & BIRD LLP Bank of America Plaza 101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000 Charlotte, NC 28280-4000

Tel Charlotte Office (704) 444-1000 Fax Charlotte Office (704) 444-1111

CLT01/4512317v1

"Express Mail" Mailing Label Number EL910301680US Date of Deposit: December 21, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on December 21, 2001

Grace R. Rippy